

WASHINGTON BOULEVARD BRIDGE
(War Department Bridge No. 3)

HAER No. DC-42

Washington Boulevard, spanning George Washington Memorial Parkway eastbound, and
Boundary Channel
Washington
District of Columbia

HAER
DC
WASH,
600-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

WASHINGTON BOULEVARD BRIDGE

(War Department Bridge No. 3)

HAER No. DC-42

HAER
DC
WASH
600-

I. INTRODUCTION

- Location:** George Washington Memorial Parkway milepost 9.95, 0.9 mile from Interstate 395, carries Washington Boulevard over GWMP eastbound and Boundary Channel on Columbia Island.
- FHwA Structure No.:** 3300-018P.
- Date of Construction:** 1943.
- Type:** Reinforced concrete spandrel filled arch bridge.
- Present Use:** Carries Washington Boulevard over the GWMP eastbound and Boundary Channel.
- Significance:** Built as part of the Pentagon Highway Network.
- Project Information:** Documentation of the George Washington Memorial Parkway and Clara Barton Parkway was undertaken as a multi-year project by the Historic American Buildings Survey and the Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER), a combined division of the National Park Service, Robert Kapsch, Chief. The project was sponsored by the Park Roads Program of the National Park Service, John Gingles, Deputy Chief, Engineering and Safety Services Division. The Project Supervisor was Sara Amy Leach, HABS Historian. Bridge reports were prepared by Elizabeth M. Nolin (1988); Michael P. Kucher (University of Delaware, 1993); and Jennifer P. Wentzien (University of Washington, 1994).
- HABS Report No. VA-69 prepared by Timothy Davis (University of Texas) provides an overview history of the entire parkway project. Jack E. Boucher and Jet Lowe produced the large-format photographs. The Washington-based summer 1994 documentation team was headed by landscape architect Tim Mackey (Harvard University, Graduate School of Design).

II. DESCRIPTION

The bridge was built in the early 1940s as part of the extensive Pentagon Road Network. Other Pentagon Network bridges which cross the GWMP are Route 50 Westbound over GWMP (HAER No. DC-40) and Washington Boulevard Overpass (HAER No. DC-41).

The bridge is a three span spandrel-filled arch bridge. The overall length is 319'. The two longest arches span 110'. The concrete deck is 98' wide, including sidewalks. The original railing was replaced during concrete repairs in 1988-1989. A granite curb was installed at this time.

III. SOURCES

Plans for Proposed Project BR #3, IA59¹ Microfiche reductions of original construction drawings on file at the Bridge Inspection office of the Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division, Federal Highway Administration, Sterling Virginia.

U.S. Department of the Interior, Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), No. VA-69, "George Washington Memorial Parkway," 1994. Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, Washington D.C.

¹Reconstruction plans from 1988.